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**Washington**



**Founded 1836**

**U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare**  
**Public Health Service**





*Detection of a Conspiracy, to suppress a General Good in  
Phyfic, and to promote Error and Ignorance in that im-  
portant Science :*

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Being the Singular

C A S E

O F

*John Tennent, M. D.*

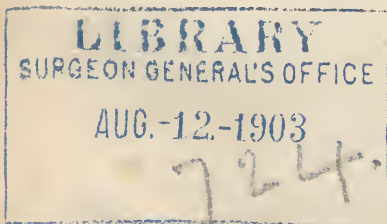
Which has brought against him, *maliciously*, a Trial at the  
*Old Bailey* for *Bigamy*.

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-----*Heu me ! per Urbem*  
*Fabula quanta fui.*

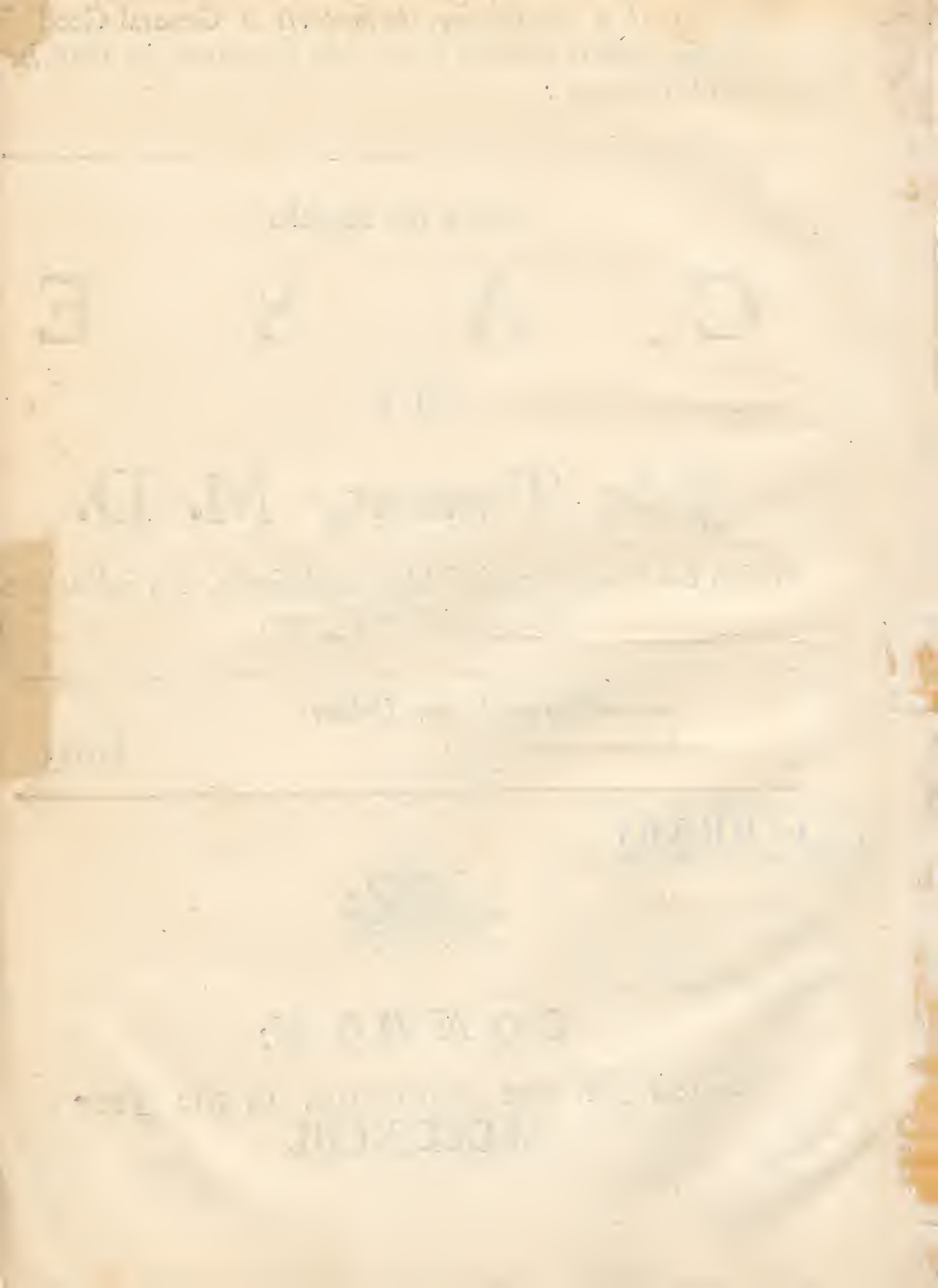
HOR.

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L O N D O N :

Printed for the AUTHOR, in the Year  
M,DCC,XLIII.



## Detection of a Conspiracy, to suppress a general Good in Phycic, &c.



Raduc'd, circumvented, and at last betray'd ; bereft of every Consolation, save that of conscious Integrity, and a distant Hope derived therefrom : I take this Method of submitting myself to the Determination of the Public, in confidence of obtaining a Sentence agreeable to its usual Candour, and suitable to my *own Deservings*, as they shall occur in the subsequent Narrative.

When it shall appear what a Combination of subtle Machinations, Decoys, false Professions, malicious Whispers, loud Revilings, and every other Effort of perfidious Craft, have been form'd against me ; the Wonder will be, not that such Practices exist, but that they should all be exercised to ruin a poor unhappy Stranger, who had nothing to oppose such a League of Villany, but that Resolution and Perseverance which flows from innate Honesty, and the little Merit I apprehend belongs to me ; which, I believe, will appear to every impartial Person, to have been the Source of all my Misfortunes.

I am too well apprized of many Irregularities in my Conduct since I left *America*, to expect the World should pass them over without Censure ; I am conscious of Imprudence in too many Actions : Therefore, when I would endeavour to palliate any Indiscretions I have committed, I would not be thought an obstinate Defender of them. After all the Facts are fairly stated, and every Circumstance impartially consider'd ; I hope it will then be manifest to the discerning World, that by acting as if a fair and useful Cause must needs meet with Success, my Affairs became so embarrassed, as not to be recovered by a regular Plan.

When first I arrived in *London* from *America*, I had but very little Experience of the World,

and made no doubt of finding some great Man who would take a Pleasure to patronize and recommend me ; because of the undeniable Credentials I brought of the extensive Usefulness of a Discovery I made in that Country : My Inexperience also prevented my suspecting the least Opposition, or Apprehension of any thing but a fair and candid Reception, in a Country so polite and learned as *Britain*. Thus was I inadvertently plung'd into Difficulties before I well knew where I was, and drew upon me Enemies before I knew the Men.

The *British* Colonies in *America* are attacked once every Year with an epidemic Disease, that generally begins some Time in *October* to invade most Parts of the Country, and continues to ravage till the middle or end of *April* ; a Disease so mortal, that it generally cut off in that space of Time two Thirds of the Inhabitants who were attack'd with it, or a fourth Part of the whole in those Counties where it raged most. This Distemper engaged for some Years the particular Attention of the Physical Gentlemen in *Virginia*, and employ'd them in endeavouring to discover the true Nature and Cause of it. Various were their Opinions, and as different their Methods of Cure ; but the Result of all their ingenious and painful Enquiries were equally unsuccessful ; for their Fame and Reputation, however secure they had thought it, generally terminated with their Patients Lives.

The same Hopes of raising my Character in the Physical World, engaged me too in the same Cause : Besides, I thought it was dishonourable in one who was entrusted with the Health and Lives of his Fellow Creatures, to sit down with his Arms a-crofs before such a mournful Scene, and to be the idle Spectator of their



Deaths. In my Enquiries into the Nature and Cure of this Disease, I industriously threw aside all Prejudices in Favour of this or that *Theory*, renounced every idle *Hypothesis*, which I thought only served to amuse the Imagination, bewilder the Judgment, and mislead the young Practitioner with a gawdy Shew of Reasoning, in his Researches after Nature.

I employed my Time, therefore, in accurately observing and marking down every *Phænomenon* and Circumstance, as they occurred in the different Stages of the Distemper, till I had provided myself with a considerable Number of Cases; and by daily comparing the Symptoms of one Patient with those of another, the different Symptoms of the same Patient, and by reasoning upon them accordingly, Nature, always favourable to a proper Enquiry into her Secrets, began to open herself to my View, and the more solicitous and steady I shewed myself, she was equally easy and accessible. Thus I continued my Application till I had screw'd the Secret out of her; and could my Success recommend the same Conduct to Men of superior Learning and Genius, I dare say we should have less Reason to complain of Nature being close minded, and tenacious of her Secrets, tho' a great deal more to bewail our own Folly and Willfulness.

As soon as I had discovered the Nature of this Disease, I went to consult the *Materia Medica*, that overgrown and complicated Monster, which has so long fed and fattened itself under the Protection too of our *solemn medicinal Quality*, at the Expence of our Pockets; and, forgive me, ye *Modern Æsculapii*, if I should say of our Lives too: But after I had tortured it again and again, and quite tired myself, I could not squeeze out so much as would answer my Purpose. Seeing I had discovered the true Nature and Cause of this mortal Distemper, which I looked upon as the better half of my Task, I was unwilling to give entirely up by making a Stop there: I was convinced Nature was too kind and benevolent to entail an incurable Disease upon Mankind, and if her Cures were sometimes a Secret, it was always owing to our Want of Sagacity and Industry, never to her Want of Care and Concern for us; 'twas not she

who was improvident, but we who were blind or capricious, which is too often the Case. In Confidence, therefore, of finding out this Cure, I bent my Studies much that way, and was at last amply rewarded for my Pains.

The *Senekka Indians*, who had been at War to the Southward of *Virginia*, with a Nation called the *Catawbaa Indians*, in the Year 1712, being-harrassed and fatigued in their March home, communicated to a Planter in the Frontiers the surprising Efficacy of the *Rattle-Snake Root*, in Consideration of some Assistance and Refreshment on their Journey. If a Person is bit by a *Rattle-Snake*, this Root will prevent Death, if immediately taken; a Bite otherwise so mortal, that the unhappy Patient seldom escapes Death, which follows it very often in fifteen Minutes, sometimes sooner, and at other Times in some Hours or Days; which Difference proceeds from the Part bit, and from the Season of the Year which governs the Activity of that Viper's Venom.

I cannot say whether I was more pleased or surprized with this Account. After ruminating again and again upon a *Phænomenon* so strange, I could not help thinking an efficacious and so sovereign a Medicine, must also be an extensive one; I took the first Opportunity, therefore, of narrowly observing the different Symptoms of every Person I could see, who had the Misfortune to be bit by this poisonous Viper; and on comparing them with those I had before observed in Patients labouring under the epidemic Fever of *America*, I found so near an Analogy between them, as tempted me to make an Experiment\*; tho' I took care to try it the first Time upon a Patient incurable by all Practice I had seen. The Success justified the Trial, and much more than answered my Expectations; for the poor Wretch, whom I, and all who had seen him, considered as irrecoverably gone, recovered apace, and in a short Time was as sound and vigorous as before the Time he was seized with the Distemper.

During the Space of a few Months after, I made a great many Experiments, and received as many Assurances of its Efficacy in this mortal Distemper; and if I lost four or five Patients in

† It is called *Senekka Rattle-Snake Root*, and is in every Respect quite different from the *Serpentaria* of the Shops, called *Snake-Root*.

\* The Subject of the *Analogy of Constrictions and Relaxations of the Nerves, Coagulations, Stagnations, and Diffusions of the Blood*, shall be accurately handled in my Physical Dissertations, which, I humbly conceive, sufficiently warrants that Experiment.



in a hundred, which was the most I ever did after this Discovery, I blamed my Want of more Skill as severely, as formerly I used to boast of it, when I had saved four or five desperate Patients from Death in the same Disease.

Now I saw myself the sole Proprietor of the most valuable Medicine that ever yet had been discovered. I found myself able to stand my Ground, and cope with those old Practitioners, who had all along looked down upon me with a mean jealous Sneer, and took every little Opportunity of blasting my Reputation and Character with the Gentlemen of the Colony. Such Thoughts naturally suggest themselves to the Mind of a young Man, when he thinks himself wrong'd: But when I had reflected more calmly, and honestly weigh'd every Consequence, I concluded that personal Pique, or Self-Interest, however common a Reason it might be, was at least a very dishonest one, for keeping so useful a Discovery secret from the World: For, I knew this Medicine was once published, and put into the Hands of every Person and Practitioner in America. I should save vast Numbers of my Fellow Creatures from Death, since it was impossible for me either to attend or administer to them all, in a Country subject to that Disease, which extends above one Thousand Miles from North to South.

As such a disinterested Piece of Conduct had met with my own Approbation, I never imagin'd but it would likewise have met with that of every good Man, as well as their Applause. Say then, ye generous Few; Did I deserve to be branded and stigmatized as a *Fool and Madman* by the World, for consulting *the Interest of the World*, and sacrificing my own to theirs? No; I acted as you would in my Circumstances have done. Say then, ye little Generation of Vipers; should I, *like you*, have suck'd the Blood of my Fellow-Creatures, and, like a *Cannibal*, fed myself with the Flesh of Man? No; tho' you have made me a poor Wretch in the Eyes of the World, it is not in your Power to make me a cruel one. But to return.

According to my Determination, I published in the Year 1736, a short Essay on the *American Pleurisy*, with an Account of the Efficacy of this Medicine in that Distemper, all proved from repeated Experience in the Course of my extensive Practice in that Country; and still to communicate so great a Benefit the more readily, Directions were printed in all the News-

papers of the several *American Colonies*: I distributed Numbers of Copies of my *Essay* to Gentlemen, and Practitioners in Physic, of *Virginia*, and sent a Number of them to the leading Physicians in *London*, and elsewhere in *Britain*.

Hence my Reputation rose every Day, my Practice increas'd so fast upon me, notwithstanding every one was Master of my Discovery that it became almost a perfect Fatigue to I saw myself caref'd and esteem'd by the principal Gentlemen of the Colony, and courted those very Men who a little before had done in their Power to curb my Ambition, and pull me down from the Height to which they saw me climbing. Under which State of Things this Question will naturally arise: What induces me to leave *Virginia*? Before I answer the Question, allow me to take notice of this Circumstance. As I had communicated the Secret to the Physical Gentlemen, and all the People, my Absence, I thought, could hurt no Person: For, having the Medicine in their Hands with Directions how to use it, I might go where I pleas'd; the Country could suffer no Detriment by my Absence.

In answer then to the Question, I may adduce one Argument, which if it seems inconsistent with that Reason true Philosophy dictates will nevertheless be found so nearly allied to human Nature, that I flatter myself every candid Person will have good Nature enough to forgive it, or too much Conscience to censure the innocent Effects of a Passion, which, in a greater or lesser Degree, actuates all Mankind; mean *Ambition*: Notwithstanding I conceive is a Justice I owe to myself to declare, that I was a mere Stranger to this Principle of Action, until the Discoveries I made in Physick, the Consequences of which, inspired me with Hopes of making one Day a Figure in the Medical World.

My Views extended apace, I long'd to evince my Capacity to the politer World; and being impatient of manifesting my Improvements to those who were Judges of their Importance, must acknowledge at the same time I was flush'd with Hopes of being honour'd and rewarded suitable to the Dignity and Usefulness of them. I readily grant this was a Piece of Vanity. But I believe the World will allow too that was a laudable Motive, akin to that noble Emulation which in every virtuous Age acquired Regard and Honour, and to which we owe the

It valuable Inventions of Life. It would be ally tedious and impertinent for me to illustrate this Assertion, especially as every Man consulting his own Breast will be easily conceded of this, perhaps, disagreeable Truth; let me not detract from the Merits of human nature, and, obscur'd by the Film of Self-Imagination, accuse my Fellow-creatures of the like lease: Perhaps there are some whose Breasts animated with a more disinterested Flame, and whose Actions flow from a more divine source. Judge me then, ye Righteous, and let him who is untainted throw the first Stone.

Besides, what my Hopes had promised me on communicating the Virtues of this Medicine to the Physicians in London, my Health which had been greatly impaired by the American Climate, and the constant Labour and Fatigue was daily obliged to submit to there, requir'd should come over to Britain. Upon the 26th June 1737, I left Virginia, and arrived in London the Beginning of August. Among the Credentials I had brought over with me from the most reputable Gentlemen in Virginia, I had Letters recommending me in the strongest terms to the Lord *Islay*, Sir *Hans Sloan*, Dr. *Mead*, &c. A few Days after I waited on them, and delivered to each his Letters, represented to them the Usefulness of the Discovery I had made, inform'd them of my Designs in London, and solicited their Influence. All went smoothly on; his Lordship seem'd to think, at last told me so, that public Services ought to have their Reward; and the Physicians appear'd to applaud my Invention, and to countenance the Author: They honour'd me with Credentials for a Doctor's Degree, in the most reputable Way; the President then of the College giving his Sanction to that Honour, by signing first after an Examination; and Dr. *Mead* wrote strongly in my Favour, to the Governor of Virginia, and to one of his Majesty's Council here, who is a Gentleman distinguished for his abilities.

After such a fair Reception, and repeated Promises of their Influence and Assistance, I never doubted but Things would go on and succeed to my Wishes. Yet, tho' the Recommendations which I had brought along with me from Virginia, were warm and explicit, and nothing could seem more sincere than the Promises of Friendship made me by those Great Men; still

I wish'd for nothing more than to have an Opportunity in London of convincing them farther of the Efficacy of this Medicine, and confirming them in the good Opinion they already seem'd to entertain of the Inventor. I soon had the most favourable Opportunity that could possibly offer. Dr. *Monro*, Physician to *Bethlem Hospital*, had for several Months labour'd under a Chronical Illness: He had applied for Advice to the most eminent of the Faculty, and religiously followed their Prescriptions for a long time; but reaping little or no Benefit from them, was at last prevail'd upon to intrust me with his Cure. I discours'd with him first at Dr. *Mead's* House, and after considering the Case as accurately as I could, prescribed him a Decoction of the Root, and the Powder of it, with proper Directions. Every Day after he found himself considerably better, and in less than a Month perfectly recovered his Health. Besides the Reputation of this Cure, two or three more Cases occur'd, which seem'd to confirm the Physicians, that this Medicine would be the Means of saving thousands of his Majesty's Subjects in Great Britain as well as America.

But this Dawn of my Affairs, like a deceitful Morning Gleam, soon began to lour and threaten a Storm. I found the Physicians grew every Day cooler in my Affair, shunning me like a School-boy\* from one to another, which was the only way they had left them to shove me out altogether: For after so many Marks of their public Esteem and Regard, and so many Promises of their Friendship and Influence, it must have betrayed their Ignorance, and expos'd their moral Character to the honest World, had they deserted me all at once. When I went to the great Men I found them dancing to the same Tune, and myself like a Dog in a Dancing-School tofs'd about and bandied like a Tennis-ball from side to side. I was now quite tired and galled with riding the Great Horse, and determin'd to give it up before my Quarter was quite expired.

I had run myself by this time considerably in Debt; I owed near Five Hundred Pounds in London to 15 or 16 Creditors, having brought little or no Money from Virginia, but depending on a Sum in Britain, of which I was disappointed: About half of what I owed, I admit was extravagantly spent; and to that Misconduct are primarily owing the Slanders villanously flung against

\* I was at that time a School-boy indeed in worldly Affairs, and foolishly believed that Self-Interest could not sifle the Merit of a public Cause.



against my Name. My Patrons thought my Affairs pitifully embarrass'd; and I knew it must take more Time to set them to rights again than I could then safely allow them. Like the provident *Patriarch* I was determin'd to sojourn for two or three Years in the Land of Plenty; but was not so fortunate, for at my Arrival in *Virginia*, behold there had arose another *Pharaoh* who knew not *Joseph*.

I apprized several of my Friends, (particularly *Dr Mead*) that I must be obliged to return immediately to *Virginia*, in case I could not borrow a Sum to pay my Creditors, upon the Credit of my Prospects; but finding this was not practicable, I begg'd and implor'd him and others, with all the innocent insinuating Submission a disappointed Stranger is Master of, not to forget my Affair, or neglect to use their Influence for me in my Absence: They promised, and I bade them farewell.

I embark'd for *America* with a Resolution of addressing the *Assembly of Virginia*, for a Reward of the public Services I had done their Country, that I might be able to remit my Creditors in *London* their Money: But instead of some thousand Pounds which I had good Reason to expect, One Hundred was only voted me, by way of Earneſt of a due Reward; notwithstanding some of the Members strenuously insisted, that the least could be given me in any shape was One Thousand Pounds. I had experienc'd the World too well, to shew myself teily and to spurn at my Allowance, like a fretful Child when it refuses its Dish because scanty, or is not cooked to its Humour. I took it, tho' at the same time let them understand, I thought myself not unhandſome: But it was playing the Girl in good earnest, begging of a Marriage after she had been the *filly credulous Girl*, to trust the *Renegado* with her Maidenhead.

I determin'd, therefore, to come over again to *Britain*, to put my *Great Friends* in mind of their Promises; and as the *Virginia Assembly* had by their Votes given me a full Acknowledgment of my public Service, tho' they had not duly rewarded it; I had Hopes that the learned Physicians would second my Application on that Evidence, to those concerned in Government Affairs in *Great Britain*, which is the Mother Country of the *American Plantations*. As I left *America* with a Resolution never to return again, except I should be oblig'd to it; so I came to *London* with a Design of fixing there for Life, as the most proper Place I could pro-

pose to confirm my Health, and at the same of signaling in my Profession.

A few Days after my Arrival I waited my former Patrons, reminded them of Promises, and represented how reasonable Compliance would be to my Situation. I then, I was pretty confident the *British Parliament*, upon proper Application, would give a *Premium* for the Service I had done their Colonies in *America*, if they would only vouch to countenance it. But from their Manner looking at this Proposal, I could make a shrewd Guess at their Manner of thinking; and could foretel my own Fate from a certain Motion, a great Man's Cane, with more Certainty than a *Roman Augur* the Success of a Battle from the capricious Flight of a *Raven*. I was oblig'd to lay aside this Project, till I should have more Interest, or they more Generosity and Humanity: The last, indeed, I had soon Reason to despair of, tho' Time and good Conduct I hope will at last accomplish the first. For my Misfortunes have taught me Patience, which I look upon as the Mother of all the rest of humane Virtues, as *Cybele* was of the *Heathen Gods*.

But how should I prevail with my wily Creditors to practise the same Philosophy? There was the Difficulty. I told them they should have Draughts upon the Promises of the *Physicians*, and as soon as I was able, should take care to pay them the Exchange: But they loved their Money too well to relish my Wit. *Physical Air* I found, was too light Ballast for a *British Vessel*, and a *French Ragout* too delicate a Morsel for a *Tradesman's Stomach*. So long Scarcity had exhausted all my Granaries; I saw nothing before me but Days of Dearth and Penury; and what is the Fate of all poor Men my Family multiplied, and as they multiplied grew clamorous.

*Sed—amote quæramus seria ludo.*

I hope the gentle Reader, when he considers my Misfortunes, will readily excuse my Humour: My Creditors Demands were just; therefore, they had Reason to complain: It never was my Intention to satisfy them with this airy Coin; and although I had lived for some Time upon little more myself; it was no Reason they should. But who envies the *Stag* to breathe in cool Air for a Moment in the Shade, or grudges him a Draught of the refreshing Stream, when he has been pursued by a Pack of Hounds, push'd

h'd out like an *Infectious Plague* from the common Herd of his Friends, and stands panting at Bay? If I appear gay and in good Humour at any Time under my Misfortunes, believe me, it does not flow from my never having felt the Weight of them: No, they have sometimes *sat* so heavy upon me, that I have been ready to burst out in the Anguish of my soul, and cry with the Wretch in the Fable for Death to relieve me. Yet

I was determined that Indolence should not alter nor cherish what the World (perhaps with too much Reason) had father'd upon my Impudence. I borrowed Assurance of Necessity, though I was sunk in Debt, that I might make a little Appearance in public; went once more to the Physicians and the great Men, opened to them my whole complicated Affairs, owned my indiscretions, and promised with the *Prodigal* to go astray no more. My Years, joined with a submissive and Condescension, that ran smooth and tickle the most stubborn Pride and Vanity, pleaded with more Eloquence than I could have expected. Now I had learned how necessary it is to become their Creature, at least to seem so, if I designed to make them mine. I made use of the same Address to my Creditors, assuring them that they might securely depend on Payment of their respective Debts, so soon as it was in my Power, and that I had not the least Intention, or the most distant Design of defrauding any of them in one Farthing; but observed to them, that if in my present Situation they should distress me, they would defraud themselves, by putting it out of my Power to pay them, and ruin me beyond Recovery. As they saw the Reasonableness of my Request, they granted it.

But before I had sailed many Leagues, the Fogs that had hitherto obscured my Sight began to disperse. I saw my Error, but it was too late. The Voyage I had unfortunately undertaken was long and fruitless; and I found I had entrusted my Fortune with a fine showy gilded Vessel, but capricious as a narrow Sea, and as faithless too.

*Quamvis Pontica pinus,  
Sylvæ filia nobilis,  
Facies et genus et nomen inutile:  
Nil pictis credimus navita puppibus  
Fidat.*

When the Lord Cathcart was appointed Commander of his Majesty's Forces in the *West-Indies*, I made no doubt, upon Application being made, of being nominated *Physician-General* to them. I waited, therefore, upon some of the Physicians, particularly Dr. Monro, communicated my Design, and begg'd of him to use his good Offices in my Behalf with Dr. Mead, to whom my Indiscretions in the Year 1737, had given remarkable Dislike of me. As it was left with the Physicians to recommend a Physician for the Expedition, they should find best qualified, I begg'd they would impartially consider my Pretensions, and use me accordingly. But notwithstanding Lord Cathcart, after enquiring into my Character, seemed quite pleased that I should go along with him in that Station, another Gentleman was appointed. I offered then to go his Assistant, but was also denied that; without the least Regard to the unprecedented Success I formerly had in curing the *West-India Diseases*.

The Reader will naturally enough ask here; What made the Physicians so much my Enemies? Must it not be owing to some imprudent Conduct of my own, that could inspire them with such Rancour against me? The Truth is, I had spoke my Mind sometimes too freely, and allowed my Tongue a little unseasonable Licence: I told some Truths I should have concealed and wink'd at, which exasperated them against me; I did not pay Deference enough to their Practice.

*Obsequium amicos, veritas odium parat.*

As these and the like depending Prospects had made me neglect applying my Mind to my Practice, it was little wonder I ran every Day more and more in Debt. My Creditors observing nothing but Disappointment upon Disappointment, and one Misfortune treading upon the Heels of another, *dun'd*, *teaz'd*, and *threatened* me every Day of my Life. I knew not where to turn, or what to do. Scarcely was there a Street in Town, but had a *Rapacious Tyger* denn'd in some dark Corner of it, ready to spring out and fasten his tenacious Claws upon me. Thus I was at the same Time poor and friendless, and scarcely beheld one distant Gleam of Hope that was not obscured immediately by some dark intervening Cloud; and

if



if at any Time a few Glimpses seem'd to dawn or shine on me, it was only a deceitful Smile for a short Moment, and set in Horror and Despair!

I had no Comfort left me, save the peaceful Consolation of a well-meaning Mind, conscious it suffer'd more than it deserv'd; a Mind which could forgive lordly Oppression, while it was sinking under the unsupportable Pressure of its ~~own~~ Burthen; a Mind which felt the greatest Joy and Pleasure in alleviating the Pains, and giving Ease to the tortured Patient, and preserving the Lives of one Part of the Creation, while the other was maliciously tearing his Reputation to Pieces, and cruelly torturing the fairest Parts of his Character, to betray themselves in a Lie.

Involved in these Difficulties, I began to imagine, that my Schemes hitherto had been either extravagantly project'd, or that the World was not the same generous disinterested Community I had conceived the Idea of. It is natural for a Man to attribute whatever Misfortune befalls him, to any Thing rather than himself, provided his own Reflection can suggest the least Shadow of Reason to support his Belief. This was my Case. I was thoroughly persuaded I had met with Usage not at all adequate to my Deserts, and was so chagrind at Mankind, as inclined me to regulate my Opinion of the whole, from the Behaviour of those whom I had any Occasion to know, and to resolve for the future to proceed with every Body upon a quite different Plan from that which I had first laid down.

Being informed that Mr *W----* so celebrated for his *Pill* and *Drop*, among the more unwary-minded Part of the Town, was a Man indutrious in purchasing medicinal Secrets, sometimes at a considerable Expence; I apprehended that this Disposition, properly solicited, might be of considerable Advantage to me; at least, an immediate Shelter from the Tempest of Poverty which seem'd then ready to burst over my Head. Accordingly, April 4, 1740, I waited on this Renowned Emperick at his House in Whitehall-Court: Not that I regarded the *Blazons* of his Generosity, Charity, &c. so profusely bestow'd on him by the unthinking Multitude; or gave any Credit to the stupendous Cures his Emisaries so eloquently describe in every Coffee-house, and Place of public Resort. No; tho' I was not then so entirely acquainted with the Man's real Character, as I have had Occasion

since to discover; yet I was far from concluding him the *Demi-God* he was represented: And my Hopes in him were not established on his Principle of Benevolence, but were actually founded on his Attachment to a direct opposite Motive; namely, *Self-Interest*. I was conscious that I possess'd Knowledge which he wanted, and was resolv'd to dispose of it to him as the highest Bidder.

Forgive me, Mr. *W----*, that I entertain'd such an indifferent Opinion of your ~~own~~ worthiness at first: If it shall appear in the Sequel that my Suspicions were unjust; no Man will be more ready than me to make a suitable Acknowledgment, and atone for this Indignity, by my future Respect. But if, on the contrary, Facts shall arise, not only to corroborate thoe my Sentiments; but also evince you highly favoured in my Thoughts when I conceive no worse of you: If Truth shall prove to be less your Friend than I have been; and, diving you of your assumed Trappings, *Humanity*, *Benignity*, &c. display you to the World, adorned with *Epithets* of a quite different Nature: this, I say, should happen, you cannot reasonably blame me for being *Minister to Truth*: You cannot accuse me of Cruelty, in detecting the secret Aims of Malice hatching against myself; for it is a Duty I owe myself to wipe that *Mud* my Foes have bespatter'd me with, and to convince the impartial Part of Mankind that I am a Man more *sinned against than sinning*. And it is a Justice done my Fellow Creature, caution them against the *Snake in the Grass*, discover the *Wolf in Sheep's Cloathing*, and off the *Lion's Skin* from the Back of the whosoever I find him thus impudently guised.

I address'd this *professedly humane* Man the most pathetic Terms my forlorn Circumstances could inspire: I represented in what manner my Hopes had been blasted; what Cruelty I had met with from the *Physicians in London*, on whom I principally depended, as mediators for me with Persons at the Helm of Government-Affairs. I observ'd at the same time what a favourable Character I had heard of with respect to Marks of Generosity; how fiducious he was said to be in doing Good; how indefatigable in acquiring Means and Capacity to do more. With respect to the remark'd; that his Humanity (perhaps never had a more proper Field to exert it than me: For I was a Man forsaken by

grateful World, which instead of cherishing the first Dawn of Merit, had abandoned an unconvertible Benefactor to Society, and relinquish'd him a Prey to all the Storms of Fate : I had been hunted from Place to Place by *Catch-poles*, ereft of every common Necessary of Life ; sent by those *jaunich Hounds* out of every Corner, run down, and thrown into Prison ; exposed to every Vicissitude of Misery, and incessantly harrass'd with the deplorable Reflection friendless, hopeless Wretchedness. And with respect to the second, I gave him to know, that was Master of some *valuable Secrets* in that Science ; which, abstracted from his Beneficence, could be a valuable Consideration for the Assistance I then wanted. I acquainted him I was resolv'd to go over to *Jamaica*, provided he would indulge me in the Loan of *Twenty Guineas* to defray the Expences of sitting out ; that I could carry on a Correspondence with him in that Island, remit him his Money as soon as possible, and in the Course of my Practice there, (which I had reason to believe would become extensive) would communicate any Discovery of Importance I should make, by the most convenient Opportunities.

We discours'd much on the present State of Medicine, which gave me an Opportunity of speaking out in praise of the Medicine which I had invented, (to which I assign all my *Miseries*) and describing the uncommon Cures I perform'd with it, even in *London* ; with recommending it to his Practice, by assuring him it would effect Recoveries every whit as strong as those I had heard of his *Pill* and he never had any ill Effects. He seem'd pleas'd with my Discourse, and said he would consider my Proposal. On this Occasion too he told me how vain it was to confide in the Physicians of the City ; being generally Persons who studied Purfes rather than the Constitutions of Patients ; not so solicitous in promoting Recovery tending to recover Health, as anxious for Innovation be made to the Detriment of the healing Practice, which tho' (perhaps) detrimental to Mankind, is yet so beneficial to them ; their Countenance I enjoyed upon my first Proposal, was not owing to a Desire of encouragement, but a bare Compliment to those Persons of high Rank who had commended me to

vulgar soever these Invectives may be, nevertheless satisfied of the Truth of them ;

and from what besides pass'd between Mr. W. and me, I began to consider him in a quite different Light from that in which I viewed him before. Instead of an *illiterate Quack*, I now look'd upon him as a Man of Discernment, well acquainted with Life and its various Characters and Occurrences : A Man who supplied every Deficiency of Education with natural Abilities, and in the room of Learning substituted Judgment and Application. I regarded him as one who having experienc'd the Blows of Fortune himself, had learn'd to sympathize with the unhappy ; and, like the *Good Samaritan*, would divide his Cloak with the needy Beggar who had none. He arrayed himself in such a specious Shew of Candour, and conscious Integrity, that I was ready to recant every Thought I had harboured to his Prejudice, and adore the Man I had lately contemned.

But if this Candour shall forthwith be demonstrated, *nothing else but Deceit* ; and this seeming Integrity, the *Cloak of infernal Design* : I shall not blush to acknowledge myself overreach'd ; but triumph in bringing malicious Craft to Light. But to resume the Thread of my Subject.

He gave me no positive Assurances the first Day of an Intention to serve me, but appointed me to see him the next ; when, (as he said) having consider'd my Request, he offer'd to advance me *Ten Guineas*, exclusive of any immediate Retaliation : But that providing I could procure him any Quantity of the Medicine I had invented, he would endeavour to gratify my whole Demand. I answered, that it was then out of my Power to serve him with a great Quantity of it ; but what I could come by, which was four or five Pounds, he should immediately have, upon giving a small Sum of Money to remove an Obstacle which stood betwixt me and it. This he complied with, by giving me three Guineas, and next Day I brought him the Medicine, with Directions how to administer it in all the various Diseases where I had observed its Efficacy. He express'd a great deal of Satisfaction, lamented that he had not seen me sometime before, when I had about 70 Pound of it to dispose of. I beg Pardon for tiring the Reader with such trifling Incidents, which I cannot help mentioning, as they are essential to illustrate Circumstances of greater Consequence, and may be considered as the small Wheels of a Machine, which examined by themselves ap-



pear to be of little Value, but when join'd with the rest, are found absolutely necessary to the Constitution of the whole.

A few Days after I went again to *W--d*, with a View to reap the Benefit of his friendly Proffer of *Ten Guineas*; but he gave me only *Two*: And I perceived he indultriously turn'd the Conversation on another Topic; for when I bewailed my Necessity, he immediately slurr'd over that Theme, and expatiated on his own narrow Circumstances. "The World (says he) as it is never to be depended on in its other Calculations, so it is egregiously mistaken in my Circumstances: Was I a Man govern'd by the same sordid Principles which predominate in the Generality of People, no doubt I have had it in my Power to accumulate a considerable Fortune; but my Prospects have been still much more disinterested, my chief Aim and Pleasure being to sooth the Anguish of the needy Heart, to teach distemper'd Misery to smile, and to cure the Pangs of the Mind as well as Body."

I now discern'd whither all this Profusion of Self-compliment tended. A shallow Artifice to get rid of my present Importunity, and at the same time to inspire me with a *grand Idea of his Excellence*. But I knew the World too well to be impos'd upon by this pitiful trite Contrivance, having long ago observed that it is the common Cant of narrow Minds to plead Poverty to the Poor; and that he who discovers so much Deference for the first Person, has seldom any real Complaisance to spare for the second and third. This ridiculous Behaviour occasion'd my former Opinion of him to recur apace, and every Day henceforth convinced me more and more, that he had as little solid Wisdom in his Head, and Principle in his Heart, as I at first imagined.

However, it was not my Interest at that Time to be plain with him; I foresaw that he was of such a Texture as to yield me no more Money unless melted down by a very costly Process, and that ere he would advance me more *Gold*, I must procure him more *Root*, and give him Knowledge of Diseases, tho' he had at first told me, that he would advance me *Ten Guineas* exclusive of any immediate Retaliation. Therefore, I found means to procure him about 15 Pound more of this most excellent Medicine; and plainly seeing that *Twenty Guineas* would not answer my Charges of going to *Jamaica*, I wrote to him, desiring he would be so good as

to double the Sum, in which Case (would have the better Chance of having it soon remitted, since the Practice I promised myself there, depended a good deal on the Appearance I should make on my first Landing, it being a lamentable Observation in that Place, as well as here, that a Physician's Intellectuals are too often measured by the Solemnity of his Perriwig. But when I waited on him, I had the Mortification to find my Epistle had made no manner of Impression, but more likely furnished him with Time to invent an Excuse for a Refusal; which was, that he had a considerable Sum to pay away in a few Days, that would sweep him almost quite clean of Cash, and therefore hoped I would be contented with *Twenty Pounds*, his Business being too precarious to rely upon for present Support. In a Week after he gave me the Remainder of the *Twenty Pounds*, for which he took my Promissory Note payable in twelve Months.

In this first Transaction, it is to be observed how disinterestedly Mr. *W--d* served me in the Loan of *Twenty Pounds*: He had from me *Twenty Pound* of the *Rattle Snake Root*, which is sold in *London* for *Two Shillings an Ounce*, and which I do affirm is the best Medicine in the World: He had also several powerful Prescriptions for dangerous, acute and chronick Diseases, which are, to him, well worth ten Times his Loan, instead of Interest for it.

Not being able to get abroad, I contracted a further Acquaintance with this Patron, which at last was converted into an Intimacy, he supplying me with small Sums of Money from Time to Time, and I communicating to him Knowledge in the Art of Physick; and since I thereby enabled him to perform several remarkable Cures on Persons of Distinction, which have acquired him great Reputation, I humbly conceive that he ought to pay me at least one Thousand Pounds; for, as I doubt not that he has got above that Sum by my Knowledge, it is to be reasonably inferred he will get several Thousands. However, as his Assistance was seasonable to me, I was contented he should make the best of my Knowledge, for the general Good of Mankind; for tho' an ungrateful World, or Providence, had push'd me from a proper Sphere to act in my self, yet it would have been unchristian, inhumane, and envious, to suffer the Good to be lost which I designed as a general one to the World. But it appears in the Sequel, that Mr.

*W--d*

*W—d* was not of my way of thinking; and, lest I should be enabled to pursue my Views, fell on a Project of a dark Nature to get me removed if possible; for which he had two Reasons.

1. He did not all look upon it as his Interest to raise a Man in the World (tho' Gratitude might challenge it) whom he knew so well qualified to expose his Ignorance, and bring his Behaviour into universal Contempt, whenever a proper Opportunity should offer: Therefore, tho' he had often heard me say, that I enjoyed perfect Health only in *Britain*, where he knew I had a good Chance for Advancement too, when clear of Debt, he dubb'd his Dissimulation Bawd to his Design, and under the Masque of Friendship, advanced me Twenty or Thirty Guineas several Times, when he had apparent Grounds to believe that I was under a Necessity of going abroad: This he did to get me removed in such an unpromising Character, that my publick Service should not clash with the following Scheme, which was his second Reason.

2. He had Hopes to induce the *Legislature of Great Britain* to give him a large Sum of Money to discover the Composition of his *Pill* and *Drop*, for a general Good. But as many of the Cures he performs are by Secrets pick'd from other Men, that would be a mere Imposition. It is certain, however, he had no small Hopes of carrying that Point, from the generous compassionate Disposition of the Parliament towards the public, manifest in their Act in favour of the Publication of Mrs. *Stevens's Dissolvent for the Stone*; and in order to introduce his Scheme, a Pamphlet was printed and addressed to *Thomas Cawew, Esq;* Member of Parliament, signed *Philanthropos*, which favours much of the Style of his Brother, *John W—d*.

But it was obvious to Mr. *W—d*, that if once the *Rattle-Snake Root* was well known, it must be an entire Obstacle to this Project, being a Medicine of infinite more Use to the World, than his *Pill* and *Drop*: Therefore, while I was in *London*, I remained a Thorn in his Side to cure him, which led him into a wicked Emulation to put me out of the Way: He knew was against the Interest of the Physicians to countenance a Medicine so powerful, safe, and extensively useful; besides, he was well aware, that when the Inventor of this Benefit was gone, it would soon be forgot, and the more readily, as I had given the Physicians Offence by the

Licence I had assumed, which tho' unseasonable, was truly designed for a general Good. He therefore made his Effort to run me, by bribing a Man from the most binding Tie of human Nature, *Gratitude*, as appears by the following Account.

Some time in *July 1741*, when I was attending my renowned Pupil at *Whitehall*, and giving him some Physical Instructions, one *James Christian*, a Taylor in *Hatton-Garden* came in, and interrupted my Lectures with a very mournful Account of his Wife's Illness, making bitter Complaints against the useless Prescriptions, and lordly Fees of the Physicians, nor did he forget to throw out many Curses upon the Extravagance of the Apothecaries Demands. Tho' the Account which he gave of his Wife's Case was indistinct and confused, I could discover it to be a Species of the *Rheumatism*, and help'd him to make it more intelligible to my Disciple. Mr. *Christian* surprized to find me so particularly acquainted with every Circumstance of his Wife's Dilemper, and meeting me in a few Days at a Coffee-house in *Fauler's Rents*, told me, that if Mr. *W—d* did not succeed in it, he would apply to me, from the Character he had also since heard of me. I told him there were some particular Attachments which I had with Mr. *W—d*, that hindered me from engaging with any of his Patients. But I knew the meek Disposition of the Man, and the cross Subbornness of his Medicines then given, to despair of having her soon resigned to other Help.

Next time I went to *Whitehall*, Come, says Mr. *W—d*, (giving me one of his familiar Claps on the Shoulder,) How would you behave in such a difficult Case, ingenious Doctor, as Mrs. *Christian's*? Right, Mr. *W—d*, reply'd I, you are still for sitting alone, I find, like *Mabomet* in the great Chair, without ever acknowledging the *Dove* perched upon your Shoulder, and whispering in your Ear what you are to say to the Multitude. No, no, good Friend, if I must be a Prompter to your Part, I shall take care for the future to receive a Share of the Profits. I had no sooner desisted this *Demi-God* than the *Impostor* appeared; his Medicines failed him, and I was called to try my Skill. In about 14 Days I recover'd Mrs. *Christian* of a Malady, such as I am sure Nature had never before so assisted, without the industrious Assistance of a Partner.

Soon after this, the Husband was seized with the *Epidemic Fever* which was so fatal to many; but



but happening to be out of Town, his Wife had called only an Apothecary, till I should return; for her late Experience had taught her, that the cheapest Cure was always the best. I will not take upon me to justify this Maxim of the Woman's, tho' I may safely say there was no great OEconomy in her Conduct. At my Return to *London*, I found the Man in a very deplorable Condition, attended him two Days, and in one Day brought him to his Senses and out of all Danger: In eight Days after, I had the Pleasure of seeing him walking the Streets, tho' his Friends had expected nothing but to see him stretched in his Coffin; and he was so elate with this Deliverance, that wherever he went it was his Care to blazon my Reputation.

Having observed him to be well acquainted with the World, and understood the Turn of its Humours, as Mr. *W—d* did the Beat of its Pulse; and as it must have been a Piece of very great Imprudence for me to neglect any Opportunity, in my Situation, of being recommended, I industriously studied to improve an Acquaintance that might be so serviceable to me if rightly managed: And upon a more intimate Acquaintance with him, I took the Opportunity of informing him of the embarrassed State of my Affairs; how my Creditors grew every Day more numerous, and consequently more pressing; and if no Alteration could be brought about, I must unavoidably leave *England*, or fall into their Hands; and in the latter Case be sent to Goal, where my Liberty, my All, must lay at their Mercy: That if any Thing could be concerted to ward me from this Blow, I did not despair of having it soon in my Power to satisfy them all.

To this Representation Mr. *Christian* proposed Marriage to some Lady of Fortune, which he apprehended not at all difficult to be effected, on several Accounts. Favourable to this Expedient proposed, an Incident offered, by one Mrs. *Hanger*, a Widow Lady from *Huntingdon*, coming to lodge and board at his House, whose Fortune was sufficient to answer all my Purposes. As I used to dine now and then with Mr. *Christian*, I had the Opportunity of seeing and conversing with this Lady, who being lovely in my Eyes, I had the Vanity to imagine I was not disagreeable in her's; and my Interest justifying my Inclinations, I resolved to propose them to her the first Opportunity. In a short Time I was so happy as to gain her Affections; and to prevent all future Uneasiness that might

fall out after Marriage, if I had kept her Stranger to my Affairs till then, I ingenuously confessed some little Indiscretions I had been guilty of in Love-Affairs, which I could never vindicate nor approve; but what gave me the greatest Uneasiness upon cool Reflection, a foolish Step I had taken in keeping one *Cary* under the Name of Mrs. *Tennent*; but the same time assured her, that I had turned away some Months before, to graze with my own Flock: I also told her, that my Affairs were so embarrassed, as to require One Thousand Pounds to recover them, and set me out the proper Footing of a Physician.

Say, Madam, did I ever once endeavour to buoy you up with a vain, a false Representation of my Affairs? Tho' I shew'd you my pockets, I never once boasted of my Possessions, and had your Relations interposed, and set their Torrent maliciously brought against me, happy might you have been. Did I not tell you so? And did not you in Answer say, you had a Thousand Pounds at my Service; more if I wanted it? Did you not send for your Aunt, Mrs. *Watson*, to enquire my Character of creditable People? Could she have got a better of any Man than what they gave me? Did she not represent to these People your Fortune to be seven times as much as I told you sufficient to make you completely happy.

The Sunday before I was married to this Lady, Mr. *Christian* took occasion to observe to me, that his Circumstances were in a bad state, tho' hidden from the World; but that he had a Hundred Pounds, prudently managed, would support them, without which he must inevitably starve. He represented, that as he had used good Offices for me with the Lady, was I to make a Present of so much, he thought he deserved it, tho', says he, as you have saved my Wife and my own, unless my Affairs were very bad, I should neither look for a Gift or a Loan from you. I replied, that to give him a Hundred Pounds on the Account he had been in was what I could see no Reason for; so full Proof I was the Lady's Choice among several Suitors, else his speaking well could not influence her Affection: But that his Case was so desperate, as to be on the Brink of Bankruptcy, I would give him a Hint of the Nature of my Principle, by secretly succouring him with an Advance of 200 Pounds, which I should consider as a Loan when I saw him able to return it, but

would hold it indifferent; and to convince him of my generous Disposition, I would let the King rest in his own Honour and Conscience, asking no Note, Bond, or Writing, for the same. I gave him five Notes of my Hand to be sent with his Creditors, as follow: One for 20 *l.* 2d for 50 *l.* 3d for 33 *l.* 4th for 20 *l.* 5th for 28 *l.* These Notes, tho' all drawn on the 1st of November 1, 1741, had not the same Date, but Mr. *Christian's* Desire were dated thus; two for 125 *l.* October 29, payable in three Months; one for 33 *l.* November 1, payable in four Months; one for 20 *l.* November 10, payable in four Months, and one for 28 *l.* November 10, payable in five Months. In all 206 *l.* On Sunday, November 8th, which completed the fourth Week of making my Addresses to Mrs. *Christian*, I was married to her at St. James's Church, Clerkenwell, by the Rev. Mr. *Fisher*, Curate of a Licence from *Doxors Commons*; being now aware that my Creditors would make their Demands so soon as they knew this, and it prudent to find out some Expedient to pay them off, till I could raise a Sum of Money to pay their whole Demands. I proposed to Mr. *Christian* to recommend me to a Money-Broker for the Loan of about 200 *l.* to compound my Debts, which were about 16 Creditors; not that I design'd to pay one Farthing of the whole I owed by Composition; but to obviate Uneasiness in my Wife's Relations, till it should be in my Power to pay all I owed by having her Fortune in my Hands: And hence I concluded, that by paying a Composition with my Creditors, I might pay the total Sum to each when they should not compel me, would recommend me to the World in the Light I merited, have not been abused in Character, *because I do what was out of my Power*. He appointed Mr. *Stevens*, in *Somerset-street*, Good's-lane, who agreed to advance the Sum I desired, and whom I commission'd to give assurances to my Creditors of a full Payment when I was able, whatever definitive Composition might make in my Behalf. Mr. *Stevens* compounded Debts amounting to 380 *l.* or about 90 Pounds, at a Crown, some more, in the Pound; but my Marriage was now by this time, 100 Pounds of my Money still stood against me, and the real Value of all my Debts was thus.

To old out-standing Debts	100
To Mr. <i>Stevens</i> for Composition-Money	90
To ditto for Money borrowed at several Times	60
To ditto for his Premium for Advance, and waiting on my Creditors	25
To Mr. <i>Cooke</i> , for a Mercer's Bill	25
To Mrs. <i>Stanton</i> , for a Milliner's Bill	20
To Mr. <i>Kirke</i> , for Cash borrowed of his Wife at Mr. <i>Christian's</i> , the Day before my Marriage	20
To Mr. <i>Christian</i> , for a Taylor's Bill	47
To ditto for his Account for my Wife's Boarding, &c.	20
To contingent Debts	20
	£ 417

It was now about three Weeks after Marriage when I applied to my Wife's two Brothers, one an Attorney at Law; the other a Clergyman, for Help under this Situation of my Affairs. They both shewed all the Readiness imaginable to join with me in any Security, to raise as much Money immediately as would make my Affairs easy. Mr. *Stevens* who offered to advance 500 *l.* instead of waiting on Mr. *Parrat* the Attorney with Mr. *Phelps* of *Lyon's Inn*, (Attorney for Mr. *Stevens*) as had been agreed, to see the Title of a Land Estate, came, back'd with two Bailiffs, and arrested me in the *King's Head Tavern*, *Holbourn*, for his Debt; and the better to conceal the malicious Drift of the Design hatch'd against me, *Christian* was included in the Writ of Arrest, tho' I could easily perceive by the alternate Whisperings, and cowardly pusillanimous Looks of the Wretches, it was done by previous Concert. It is beyond all Dispute that this Arrest was purely malicious, for a few Days before Mrs. *Tennent* begg'd of Mr. *Stevens* not to be uneasy about his Money, for he should have her Annuity of 50 Pounds in Security, till her Brother raised me a Sum on the Credit of her deceased Father's Estates. I could not help throwing out some warm Expressions in my Passion against the hired Mercenaries of the *Champion of Treachery*, that *Veteran* in Iniquity, who, like a *Russian Bear*, grow'd under a Covert, rapacious for my Blood, and presently becomes visible. Mr. *Parrat* came in a little time, and gave Mr. *Stevens* his Note of Hand, and took up mine.

Mr.



Mr. *Christian*, unwilling to break into open Hostilities at once, was desirous to seem my Friend a little longer, and began to practise his *Leader's* Measures, by endeavouring to vindicate his own Innocence, and throwing the whole Burthen on the back of the *poor Ass*: He came and told me how industrious he had been, in *quashing the wil-  
lanous Stories* that were every where said of me, which I was credibly inform'd he himself had industriously spread, as will appear by his subsequent Conduct. He came in two or three Days and put his Taylor's Bill of 47 Pounds into my Hand, and I drew an Order on Mr. *Parrat*, payable in 16 Days after Date, without making the least Objection to the Extravagance of it. Mr. *Parrat* told him, as it was payable in such a short Time, he could not conveniently accept it, till he had first seen me; but he would accept it immediately, provided he would give him Three Months to pay it in. Mr. *Christian* skulk'd no longer in Ambush, but leap'd from the Covert, threw off his Mask, charg'd me with Ingratitude, (for Guilt is always sure to snatch the first Word) and threaten'd, if the Note was not that Day accepted as drawn, to arrest me; but to prevent that, Mr. *Parrat* complied with it.

Mr. *Parrat* seeing how scandalously I had been used, very justly upbraided me for having any Connections with such low pitiful Fellows, a Parcel of Sharpers, whose Business it is to be on the Scent for their Prey, and like *Ravens* perch upon the Carcase, nor leave it till they have pick'd every Bone. He advised me forthwith to shake off these *Money-Leaches*, as well for my Reputation as Interest, as they would not leave me till they had drained me of every Farthing I had; for it was their Practice, like the *Cat* in the Fable, to go from Neighbour to Neighbour, under the Guise of Friendship, to warn them of their Danger, but in fact to raise a Bustle and Noise, and, like the *Pick-pocket*, while they pretend to reconcile Differences, are robbing them of their Money: That their calling one another Names in public, was nothing but meer Artifice to deceive the World.

*Ex Composito agunt.*

I represented to Mr. *Parrat*, that if my Affairs continued in the present confused Situation, I could not pursue my Business; and that the Sufficiency of her Fortune to put me on a proper Footing in the World, and consequently to

make her happy, the Effect of my Love, was one Motive of my Marriage; for it would have demonstrated Want of Affection in me, to have married a Woman without a Fortune in my Circumstances; that my Marriage had brought all my Debts against me, when before the Case was not so bad, few Creditors at last thinking it worth their while to arrest me; that before Marriage I had none to provide for but myself, but now I had a Family, which if it depended on my Capacity and Industry for Support, must starve, unless the present Obstacles were remov'd immediately. To this Representation he was attentive, and told me he had procur'd 300 Pounds of one Sir *John Thompson*, to clear him of his Engagements to Mr. *Stevens* and *Christian*, the Remainder of which I should have, and desired me to look out for 4 or 500 Pounds more, and he would join with me in the Security for the Loan. This Behaviour of Mr. *Parrat's* demonstrated his Good-will for his Sister, and I am well convinced that he would have exerted himself to have got me extricated from my Difficulties, had he not been discouraged by the Effects of *Christian's* Wickedness, who made it his Business to asperse my Character to every Body he knew I had any Concern with, and to persuade every Creditor to arrest me. Mrs. *Christian* had recommended to my Wife, before Marriage, a Mercer and Milliner, mention'd in my Account of Debts; but after a short Time *Christian* persuaded the Milliner to have me arrested one Night in the Street where I lodg'd, and had I not got my Friend Mr. *Phillis*, a Wine-Merchant, to have paid the Mercer, I should have met with the same Usage from him. In fine, this Incendiary so traduc'd my Character, that Mr. *Parrat*, being a mere Stranger to me, inclined to drop all Endeavours for my Relief.

I beg the good-natured Reader to indulge me a Moment or two, to see if I can discover the Cause of this sudden Change in Mr. *Christian's* Conduct. As I would not willingly imagine, as I was unwilling to think, Heaven had purposely formed me so unfortunate a Creature, as to become the general Object of all the World's Malice, I was apt to suspect my Misfortunes sprung from one and the same Source, however they seem'd to come thro' different Canals.

A Day or two before Mr. *Stevens's* Arrest, which was the first after my Marriage, my Friend Mr. *Dubourdieu*, who kept a Lottery-Office at *Charing-Cross*, with whom I had lodged and boarded, solicited me for a Fort-night's

night's Loan of 200 Pounds, for the greater Number of Tickets he could put thro' his Hands, he had the greater Profit, and a better Chance for Prizes. I could not then answer his Demand, but sent immediately a Letter to Mr. *W—d*, wherein I assured him of the Soundness of my Friend's Principles, and if that should not satisfy him, I became Security for the Return of the Money in 14 Days. Mr. *Christian* was the Bearer of this Letter, and staid so long that I began to suspect Mr. *W—d* was enquiring into the Situation of my Wife's Fortune, to judge of the Facility of practising some Mischief, for I know the plodding restless Spirit of the Man, who, in Spite of all his Artifice, had frequently given me the strongest Reasons to look upon him as an Enemy, and that he would leave no Stone unturned to get me removed from England, of which he gave me a glaring Proof about five Weeks before my Marriage, when I communicated to him a Prescription for the *Falling Sickness*; my publishing of which in the *London Daily Post*, November 23, 1741, no doubt gave him Room to believe I had a mind justly to expose him. After there setting forth the Prescription, I concluded with the following Words. *This Prescription is not my Invention, but was communicated to me by a learned Gentleman; and as several People of all Ranks are afflicted with the Falling Sickness, which exhibits such miserable Symptoms, it is apprehended, that many will have Recourse to so plain and simple a Medicine, which being thus freely published, must needs obviate the ill-natured Constructions too often put on good-natured humane Intentions, which encourage Quacks to impose on, and kill the Public, under fallacious Pretences of being possessed of wonderful divine secret Medicines, that perform miraculous Cures.*

When Mr. *Christian* returned, I could easily perceive, that the political Chymist had been trying by *Analytical Gold* to convert the baser Metal of *Christian's* Heart into Dross; for his Behaviour was very strange and untoward, and he told me, that Mr. *W—d* wanted to borrow the like Sum himself, so far from being able to lend it: So that from the Sequel, it is very plain my Suspicions were not chimerical or groundless. I beg the Reader will observe, that from the very first Beginning of my Acquaintance with Mr. *Christian*, he had all along shewn himself my sincere steady Friend, and never staggered or made a false Step, till I was arrested by Mr. *Stevens*, the second Day after

I sent him to Mr. *W—d*. Whence this unexpected Change? Say, Mr. *Christian*, Did I ever give you one Reason to become my Enemy? or was it Mr. *W—d* bribed you last; for higher he could not than I had done? Did I not, under God, save your and your Wife's Life? Could Mr. *W—d* have so earned or bribed your Friendship? Or was you so consummate a Villain to become a Volunteer in Treachery, for Malice Sake? Did I not, when you asked me for 100 Pounds, to save you from breaking, give you 200 Pounds?

*Christian* continued indefatigable in traducing me to every Body I had Dealings or Acquaintance with, and went to the Lodgings of one Mrs. *Butler*, desiring the Favour of her to let him see *Elizabeth Cary*, mention'd Page 13, which she did in a Day or two after, when he asked her, if her Name was not Mrs. *Tennent*: Mrs. *Butler* told me that she answer'd in the Negative. Then he said, that she might get an Hundred or Two Guineas by claiming me as her Husband: This had such an Effect, that she sent to me for a Guinea or two, two or three Times, pleading at the same time great want of common Necessaries of Life. My usual Disposition in such Cases, procur'd her that Assistance; of which I advised Mrs. *Tennent* to obviate Uneasiness, observing that I should not grant any such Charity but with her Approbation. He next prevailed on Mr. *Kirke* to arrest me for his Debt of 20 Pounds, because, forsooth, I was said to be about leaving all my Creditors in the Lurch, and removing to another Habitation. I could not blame this Man for his Caution, but told him I was surpriz'd he should use such violent Methods, since Mr. *Phillis*, my Friend, a Wine-Mercant in *Arun-del-street*, had promised to pay the Money immediately, if he could not lie out of it till it should be in my Power to satisfy him. He replied, that he was inform'd I had impos'd upon him in the Character of Mr. *Phillis*, who he heard was not worth a Shilling. *Another Stream of Scandal from the same dirty Origin!*

Not contented with distressing me by bringing all my Debts against me before I was enabled to pay them, he run about and scatter'd his Malice wherever he knew I had any Concern, particularly attempting to overturn my Credit with one Mr. *North* an Upholsterer in St. *James's-street*, who was then engaged in furnishing a House I had taken in *Craven-street*, and which he, notwithstanding, compleated, generously disdaining



disdaining his calumnious Insinuations. So active and unwearied was this *Incendiary* in ruining me, that I was almost tempted to think some *Fiend* had come an airing from *Hell*, and chosen me for the Subject of his Divertisement.

In this Emergency I hoped that Mr. *Parrat* would exert himself in my Service, and procure me what Money he judg'd due to my Wife on the Sale of the Estates, by a Mortgage on them: But the Name of Brother, I found, was not always the Badge of brotherly Affection; for his Diligence abated, his Proffers slacken'd, and his Friendship cool'd apace, putting me off with a lukewarm Profession of assisting me when it should be in his Power. It was therefore my Part to look about for Succour elsewhere: I communicated my Difficulties to my Friend Mr. *Phillis*, a Wine-Merchant, who carried me to Mr. *Powell*, an Attorney in the *Temple*, who had the lending of 300*l.* belonging to one of his Clients, and offer'd his joint Bond for the Money with the Rev. Mr. *Thomas Parrat* and me. Mr. *Powell* approved of the Security, telling us he was to receive the Money next *Saturday*, but could give no positive Answer till *Thursday*; at which Time he appointed me to come to him. I went, when he still appeared satisfied with the Validity of our Security, and told me that Captain *Wright*, who was along with us on *Monday* Morning first when we went, had made him perfectly easy with respect to the Circumstances of Mr. *Phillis*; withal assuring me, that on next *Monday* the Sum should be deposited, and the Bond taken.

This intirely recomposed my ruffled Spirits, and I went home in perfect Tranquility, where I had the Mortification to hear that several abusive Duns had invaded my Threshold, in such a noisy insolent Manner as to alarm the Curiosity of my Neighbours, and make them gaze into the Street for impertinent Intelligence. What added to my Uneasiness on this Occasion, was the Share I perceived my Wife bore in my Affliction, whose Happiness now was more my Concern than my own, and for whose Quiet I wrote to Mr. *W—d* to send me immediately 40, 20, or 10 Guineas, to stop the clamorous Throats of that *Cerberus*, assuring him that I was to receive 300 Pounds from Mr. *Powell* in two or three Days, when I purposed forthwith to return his Loan: He gratify'd me immediately in the Loan of Ten Guineas, and I waited on him next Day to plead farther Indulgence;

but his previous Representation of Scarcity Money, and that he should be glad of Part I ready owed him, anticipated my Request.

When I called on Mr. *Powell* at the Time appointed, he amazed me with an Account of *Man's* Death, who was to have lent the Money for all my Expectations were blasted in a trice. I had seen him on *Saturday* Morning, when I was just going to receive the Cash; I call'd again in the Evening, he was gone Abroad; *Sunday* Morning I found a Paper in the Key-hole of his Chamber Door, importing he was gone out of Town; and on *Monday* about Noon he produced a Letter, containing the News of his Client's Death on the *Saturday*, and that the 300 Pounds was found repositied among his Effects; but that the Executors refused to part with it on several Accounts. From the several Circumstances of this Story, I conceived shrewd Suspicion that it was only a plausible Pretence to shake me off with a better Grace, and that some *evil Genius*, privately interposing, had dash'd the Cup from my Lips before I had tasted its agreeable Contents. Had *Christian* been privy to this Affair, I should not have hesitated long in fixing my Surmises on him; but it was so dustriously concealed from his Notice, that unless he was the *Devil's Resident* in good earnest, I could not have divined this Negotiation of himself: Tho' it is highly probable, from what I have said above, that he might receive Intelligence from another *fat Minister* of his *Diabolic Majesty*, who would fain impose himself on the World for an *Angel of Light*, and in whom I felt I too much confided, even after I had seen his *Chosen Foot*.

Those Sons of Mischief, I suppose, severall conjunctly, or in Subordination one to the other, stole to Mr. *Powell*, villanously begrim'd in Character, and that of my Friends, and treacherously cut off this seasonable Supply, which would have procur'd my Liberty, and convinced Mrs. *Tennent*, by my Practice in Physic, how far she had made a prudent as well as affectionate Choice of an Husband. That this Negotiation became known to *Christian* is evident from this: On *Saturday*, when I was going to Mr. *Powell*, I perceived myself dodg'd in the *Temple* by one *John Pilmeys*, an Intimate of *Christian's*, at whom I find has the Character of a *K—t* the *P—st*; and as this fix'd my Suspicions on Mr. *W—d*, I took occasion to dodge *Christian* the *Monday* following to *W—d's* House, observing him passing by as I stood at the Door of the

E

Globe Tavern

the Tavern at the Head of *Craven street*: He  
id near an Hour: About a Quarter of an Hour  
er he was gone, I went in to Mr. *W—d*, and  
ed; When did you see Mr. *Christian*? He  
swer'd, Never since you sent him about Mr.  
*ubourdieu's* Affair, See Page 11. Now that was  
ove three Weeks before, instead of a Quarter  
an Hour. I was now well convinced, that  
r. *W—d* was one Principal of *Christian's*; if  
ere were Pluralities, I know not.

My next Effort was, an Application to one  
r. *Holloway* in *St. Martin's Lane*, through  
e Recommendation of Mr. *Phillis*, who would  
ave willingly lent me 300 £. upon our Bond,  
all a Land Security could be given; but *Chris-*  
*ian*, by underhanded Insinuations, prepossest  
im so much in my Disfavour, that he at last  
olutely declined having any Dealings with  
e.

Be pleas'd to recollect, that I had been the  
eans of repriv'ing this *James Christian* and  
is Wife from the Jaws of Death, of which  
e seem'd so sensible, that he run up and down  
or some Time, like an *Extatick*, bellowing out  
ncomiums on my Skill wherever he found  
imself. Be so good likewise to consider, that  
e exceeded his With an hundred Pounds, to  
aintain his Credit, and gave him such Proofs  
f my good Nature and Contempt for Money,  
e might reasonably induce him to hope for  
urther Assistance in the Course of our Ac-  
aintance; and then reflect on the Returns he  
ade me for all this Profusion of Benefits.

Could Nature deviate so far from her usual  
im, as to form a Creature with Principles not  
ly moving in direct Contradiction to Huma-  
ity and Gratitude, but even diametrically op-  
posite to the Instigation of its own Interest? No;  
here must be some secret Spring that remains  
e examined, producing this extraordinary  
operation, and of Energy enough to regulate  
e Motion of the whole. Could a Man be pos-  
sibly more ungrateful to *God*, whose Providence  
aving placed a Stranger so as to save his Life,  
an to do all in his Power to destroy that very  
tranger? Or could a Man be possibly more in-  
uman, than to use his utmost Endeavours to  
eprive his Fellow Creatures of the Benefit he  
imself had received?

If we suppose that the Mystery consists in this  
Man's being the Emisary of some powerful  
Corruptor, who has my Downfal so much at  
Heart as to lavish out Bribes, that can win a  
Man from his Honesty and Virtue, and engage

him to his Benefactor's Destruction: I say, com-  
mon Reflection will justify every Part of the  
Conjecture, and expose *Christian's* Proceedings  
in their proper Appearance. Who this perfi-  
dious Principal must be, I leave the Facts as I  
have and shall represent them to distinguish, not  
daring to be more plain in my Accusation; be-  
cause my Proofs, however presumptive, are not  
pregnant enough to warrant my Behaviour,  
should I point out his full Name.

Beset on all Sides with gloomy Prospects of  
complicated Misery, I labour'd out a very irk-  
some Existence; and Mr. *Parrat*, instead of al-  
leviating my Distress, bent all his Thoughts to  
deliver his Sister from that Ruin which he  
thought so evidently impended over the Head of  
her unfortunate Husband: And one Evening  
desir'd me to sign a Deed of Settlement of my  
Wife's Annuity for 50 Pounds, observing, that  
had he not imagin'd I would comply with this,  
from what I told him once at his Chambers,  
he should not have rais'd the Money he had  
borrowed for me of Sir *John Thompson*. I ac-  
knowledge'd, that as my Wife had made no  
Provision for herself before Marriage, it was  
just she should experience the Effects of that  
Honour she had so generously trusted: Never-  
theless, such a Concession as he demand'd, at  
this Juncture, before the rest of her Fortune  
was in my Possession, would argue a Weakness,  
which he himself, upon Reflection, must be  
sorry to meet with in one so nearly allied to  
him; that as soon as my Affairs were retriev'd  
by the timely Assistance of 300 Pounds, which I  
conceiv'd was not out of his Power to procure,  
I would do every Thing that he in Reason  
could require, or the Affection I entertain'd for  
Mrs. *Tennent* dictat'd.

This Caution in me disgust'd him not a lit-  
tle, and he left me in Discontent. In the  
Morning I ask'd of my Wife the *Probat of Mr.*  
*Hanger's Will*, entitling her to the above spe-  
cified Annuity; and conversing with a Money-  
Broker in the City concerning the selling of it,  
he told me such an Annuity could not be bought  
for less than 700 Pounds, but that it would be  
impossible for me at present to dispose of it for  
more than 400 Pounds. This induced me to  
write to Mr. *Hanger* in the Country, enquiring  
what he would give to be cleared of the Incum-  
berance of this Annuity, which he paid in Con-  
formity to his Brother's *Will*. To this I was  
answered, that his Attorney would wait on me,  
and specify his Proposal. But before this hap-  
pend



pened, I was obliged to retreat within the Verge of the Court; so this Scheme miscarried too. In the Interim my Situation was so lamentable, that I was compelled to keep within Doors, and pawn my Effects for Subsistence, my House being besieged by an Army of Bailiffs.

During this Blockade there came a Coachman to me, with a Compliment from Mr. *W—d*, who recommended the Bearer to hire me a Jobb of Horses: A Salutation mighty inconsistent with my present Circumstances, unless he could have provided his Horses with Wings, and drove me thro' a Path where I could not be dodg'd. But it is not hard to explain this Piece of Conduct, by affirming that he at once intended to insult my Misfortune while he pretended Ignorance of it; and by this Message wanted to discover, whether or no, *his Agents* had effectually earned the Wages of their Sin.

While I was thus coup'd up like a *devoted Bowl*, Mr. *Parrat* paid me another Visit, and pressed me to sign the Deed of Settlement which he brought along with him; but I refus'd it for the same Reasons as before. Next Day I accosted my Wife in the most tender Manner, assuring her, that whenever I saw her Welfare incompatible with my own, I should not hesitate in giving hers the Preference, by securing her in this Annuity; but in the mean Time I was obliged to keep aloof, and decline it, because I plainly foresaw my Compliance in this would infallibly produce Neglect and Indifference towards my Interest in her Brother, who already began to equivocate, and affirm, that upon the Sale of the Estates, her Share, exclu-

sive of what I had received already, would amount to 300 Pounds; that although I had all the Reason in the World to suspect the Truth of this, from what I was informed her Aunt and Confidante, Mrs. *Watson*, before our Marriage, yet I would suspend my Enquiry a while longer, provided he would advance me that Sum, to place me in a Sphere acting for myself, that I might convince my Relations, she had not given her Hand to a Man whose sole Dependence was on her Fortune. I bid her recollect, that during a Week Interval of Arrests, I received Fees daily, and was applied to by People of Fashion, who had been unsuccessfully treated by Physicians Note; and desired her to consider what Encouragement I might reasonably expect, when the Credit of my Cures should have established my Reputation.

To these Remonstrances she replied in such Manner, as I imagined did not bespeak the cordial Affection which ought to be reciprocal betwixt Man and Wife: Hence arose little Family Heats and Animosities, which never fail of poisoning the Delights of the married State and in the End estrange the Husband's Inclinations from his own Home. However, I check'd every Symptom of Disgust as they arose and looked upon her as a fond Woman, wavering betwixt the Dictates of Self-regard, suggested by a darling Brother, and the Motive of Affection for an unhappy misrepresented Husband, whose Misfortunes, she feared, would be intail'd on her. Two Letters\* which about this time upon my coming Home I found her

*My Dear,*

**I**F to love be a Crime that deserves ill Treatment, I am guilty; for I verily believe no Woman ever loved to the Degree that I do you, and I am concern'd it is not in my Power to raise an equal Flame in your Breast; but since that is impossible, all I beg is, that you will pity her you cannot love, and that I am sure a Man of your generous way of thinking would, if I could but make you sensible how much I esteem you beyond any other Man that I ever saw. My dear Mr. Tennent, do you think if I did not love I could be so contented in our present Condition, or that I should be so willing to part with my Fortune? Pray, my Dear, consider, tho' it's but a Trifle to you, it is all I have; and was it ten Times as much, you should command it just the same. If you can think of any other Way to try my Love, I will cheerfully obey you. Every thing that you do, I can forgive, but your unkind Absence. Did you but know what I suffer when you are from Home, you would pity me; my Tears would raise Compassion in your Breast. My Dear, don't torment me any more by your Unkindness, either love me or end me with your Sword. I doat on you to that Degree, that I can die to please you. Was you but to see my present Uneasiness, and know how afraid I am that what I have said should give a Moment's Pain, you would pardon me all my Faults, since they all proceed from my Love of you. Dear Mr. Tennent, I will be contented with Bread and Water. if I may but have your Company.——  
[My coming Home prevented her ending this Letter.]

*My*

writing to me, the continual Disquiet she discovered, together with the pressing Sollicitations of her Brother, at last determin'd me to contribute towards her Peace, by signing this Deed, upon Mr. Parrat's *Word of Honour* to raise me cool immediately.

This being done, she resum'd her former Serenity, and perfect Reconciliation ensued; my Creditors were prevail'd upon to call in their Writs for a few Days, until the Sum could be advanced to satisfy them intirely: I was at Liberty to appear in publick, and my Affairs put on a smiling Aspect. But this soon turn'd out as faithless a Smile as ever Fortune had jilted me with, and I was conscious to myself I now committed as great an Oversight in signing the Instrument, as I had been guilty of in trusting the World at first with my important *Discovery in Virginia*: For Mr. Parrat now, instead of bestirring himself in my behalf, gave himself no Trouble about me, but left me to shift the best Way I could. And when I put him in Mind of his Promise, he altered the Terms of his Intention in a very strange Manner, by proposing I should relinquish all Title to my Wife's Third Part of her deceased Father's Estates, before he could borrow this Money on the Credit of them. This astonish'd me, indeed, and gave me no very favourable Idea of his Integrity: I must now capitulate on these his Terms, cruel as they were, or else reimbrace my old Sufferings: The first was my Choice, after mature Deliberation, and consulting with Mrs. Tennent: So I advis'd Mr. Parrat of my Condescension.

Having my Liberty from my Creditors while this was in Agitation, I took occasion to dodge James Christian from Hatton-Garden to W--d's House, who staid about an Hour, and I understood by a Person coming out that W--d was within. Next Day I dodg'd him from the same Place to Mr. W--d's again, and, so soon as he was hous'd, I went home and appriz'd Mrs. Tennent of it, and that I was under no manner

of Doubt that W--d had brib'd Christian to traduce my Character, in order to discourage her Brother from raising me her Fortune, to give me a proper setting out in the World. I went immediately to Whitehall, staying some Time before I went into W--d's, that I might know how long this *Diabolical Incendiary* was in receiving his Instructions. He came out in a Quarter of an Hour, and I judg'd he had been with his *Principal* near an Hour and a half. In a few Minutes I went and ask'd Mr. W--d, when did you see Mr. Christian? who answer'd, Never since you sent him about Mr. Dubourdieu's Affair. Here I leave the Reader to judge of Mr. W--d's Guilt or Innocence. Next Day, as I was walking up Chancery-Lane, I was arrested for a Debt of Twelve Pounds, at the Suit of Humphry Thomas, who keeps the *Globe Tavern* at the Head of *Craven-street*, when I immediately advertis'd Mr. Parrat of my Mishap, and begg'd he would release me, which he refused to do, notwithstanding he knew if I could not get rid of this Difficulty that Night, which was Saturday, I must of necessity be detained till Monday, by which time all the Debts I owed might be lodg'd against me.

All that I could possibly persuade him to favour me in, was, a Letter to Mr. Thomas, promising him Payment in two Months, if I was discharged in the Verge of the Court, where I could not be immediately arrested by any other Creditor, and a few Shillings to defray the Expences usual on such Occasions: But, having no Hopes in the Success of his Letter, I borrow'd the Money of my Friend Mr. Dubourdieu, and cleared the Debt before Mr. Parrat's Letter was rejected. So soon as I regain'd my Liberty, I repaired to the House of this Friend who had released me at such a critical Juncture, where I found my Wife; and being inflamed with Wine and Resentment, some indiscreet Expressions escap'd me, manifesting my Disapprobation of her Assurances given me, that I might securely confide in her Brother as

a

My dear Mr. Tennent,

WILL you torment me by your Absence? Are not our Affairs in a Way to make us uneasy without your being so unkind? Pray, my Dear, pity me if you cannot love me; for I don't know what I have offended you in except in loving you too much. Your Absence proceeds from your Uneasiness: I would endeavour to think; but that cannot be the Cause, for if you loved, that would make you more so; for I love, and your unkind Absence almost distracts me; Death is better than the Life I lead: Pray, my Dear, be more kind, or my Life is in Danger. — [My coming Home also prevented her concluding this Letter.]



a Man of Honour. Judging it unsafe to return home under this Situation of my Affairs, we remained at Mr. *Dubourdieu's* a Fortnight, being a privileg'd Place.

After having waited the Accomplishment of Mr. *Parrat's* Promise above a Month, who in that Time had fed me up with repeated Promises of Compliance, and told me in the *Temple-Exchange Coffee-house* that he would engage in personal Security for my Debts, if there was any Obstacle raised in paying him the Money he was negotiating for; he at last plainly told me one Sunday Evening at his Chambers, that he could engage in no personal Security with me, by reason of a Vow he had made to avoid all such Embarkations. This Disappointment was so provoking, that had I actually deserv'd the wretched Epithet of *Madman*, which my Foes among other Aspersions have scandaliz'd me with, I should have been guilty of some Indiscretion that would have sanction'd that Aspersation. Nay, had I not been bless'd with an uncommon Share of Patience and Resignation, I should have acted things, which, tho' *Indignation* or *Madness* could not justify, yet might be pardonable in the Eyes of every considerate Being.

I went home, fraught with the miserable Reflection, that *I was either the most injured, or the most unworthy of Mankind*; upbraided Mrs. *Tennent* with conducing to my Ruin, by her unwholesome Advice; and that my Resentment might prompt me to nothing unbecoming my Honour and Manhood, I forthwith quitted the House, till my ungovernable Passion should subside. No sooner had my Anger ebb'd out, than every tender Sentiment flow'd in again: I accused myself of an Affront to Love, and return'd in half an Hour; but she had retir'd out of my Reach; and by some subsequent Circumstances, I was so unhappy as to learn, my Behaviour had shock'd her so much, that she had deserted me altogether.

When my Offence is compared with my Provocation, and a small Allowance granted me for human Frailty, I flatter myself that every disinterested Reader will, if not acquit, at least forgive me this unfortunate Piece of Conduct. And you, Ladies, who have been, or are, subject to the Moods of passionate Men, I submit to your Decision, whether or no, Mrs. *Tennent* has insisted too severe a Punishment on me for my Misdemeanour?

Now my Hopes went to wreck, myself like an unhappy Mariner, who Toils and Perils of a tedious Voyage, the long expected Harbour in View, is den Squawl, hurried back into the Ocean, where every Cloud lours with and every Billow threatens to swallow.

Mr. *Parratt* became *General* of my rics, having taken out a Writ against the Bond I gave him for 360 Pounds that I might have no Time to breathe back'd with an *Order of the Board of Cloth*, to obviate the Protection of *liv common Verge of the Court*. Whereupon compelled to take Sanctuary in *Scotland*. But as I doubled my Endeavours to escape, he doubled his Assiduity to ferret me out at last persuaded his Sister to lodge information against me at *Hicks's-Hall* founded upon what I have set forth in 16 relating to *Elizabeth Cary*; upon a Bill was found against me, June 8 Warrant granted to seize me wherever reside. A Suit was also brought in *Commons* for a Nullity of Marriage.

I now was obliged to shift my Quarters and skulk about like an *Outlaw*, the Actions against me, and Scarcity of Money permitting me to appear to the *Indes*. Besides, how near should I have been to Liberty and a Settlement of my Affairs, Acquittance, tho' my Creditors had in with Time, if Mr. *Parrat* stood out or I gave him? I offered him reasonable accept in my Favour, and then I went to the Trial, but his Inveteracy, or late caused him reject all Terms, and I Reason, and my unhappy Wife was excluded his Influence.

*Christian* before this Time had shewn himself, and, to answer his honest Purport it reported he must needs be dead, did not return from a pretended Journey to *Country*; and his Wife, who affected to offer a very small Sum to his Creditors full Composition of his Debts, which was a Statute of Bankruptcy issued out against the *dead Man* at last appeared, and surrendred Effects, so as to pay about six Shillings a Pound. This Account I had from Mr. *Laceman*, at the *Blackmoor's Head* *gate-Hill*, in whose Hands my Note

and fallen, as appears by the following

ved from Dr. John Tennent, a Bond  
Two Hundred and Six Pounds, dated  
25, 1742, payable in Twelve Months,  
Vive negotiable Notes of his Hand, pay-  
James Christian.

A. ROBINS.

moor's Head,  
ogate-hill.

My Patron *W—d* had done enough, by  
his Emissary, to force most Men to  
the best of their Way, yet he found I  
of the Fugitive Kind, but resolved just-  
venge such *Diabolical envious Malice* ;  
small Book I had published, entitled  
*Enquiries*, I did his Ability Justice as a  
ner in Physick, and had a Copy pre-  
every Member of the *House of Lords*  
*mons.* Finding this, he called at my  
Mr. *Dubourdieu's*, asked for what Rea-  
I so attacked him, what I meant by it,  
ere I was ? This Visit was to get such  
nce as he should govern himself by to-  
is detached Agent, *Christian*, whom I  
nd was at *Lisbon*, (perhaps on some Bu-  
*W—d's*) and to persuade me of his  
ce. My Friend plainly told him, " that  
e said it was my Design to attack his  
ce, to open the Eyes of the World to-  
Quacks and Physicians, that it might  
en how they shuffle to one another's  
; that what I had then hastily pub-  
was the Effect of my Conviction that he  
suborned *Christian* to traduce my Cha-  
to discourage my Wife's Brother from  
so much of her Fortune, as was suf-  
t to set me out in the World ; that I had  
him, I was well convinced all the Money  
er lent me, was only to serve his own  
est, far from generous Views, as I could  
manifest to all the World, by publish-  
ll our Transactions ; and concluded with  
nding Ignorance where I was, saying I  
t be gone to the *West Indies*.

*W—d* feigned Ignorance of the Prosecu-  
aint me, which my Friend had men-  
and spoke to the following Purpose.  
tell the Doctor's Brother that I know him,  
all be summoned an Evidence, and must  
obliged to declare he told me Elizabeth

*Cary was his Wife.* Next Day hearing of this  
Interview with my Friend, I was so incensed  
at *W—d's* Dissimulation as to write him the  
following Letter.

S I R,

MY Friend Mr. *Dubourdieu* tells me, that  
you stopt at his Door for half an Hour  
Yesterday, and spoke a great deal about me with  
seeming Passion ; which I know could only be af-  
fected, for you must be convinced I have good  
Reason to commence your eternal Enemy. Your great  
corporeal Substance, puffed up by affected Passion for  
half an Hour in a Chariot at Charing-Cross,  
joined with the Reasonableness of the Cause you  
held forth in, painted in my Idea a true Brother  
to that impudent ignorant Fellow Dr. Rock ; and  
indeed there is so great a Resemblance between  
your Persons and Intellects, (tho' I believe he  
has rather better Principles) that you ought al-  
ways to accompany each other. I should have let  
a Year pass before I had begun to undeceive the  
World about your Qualifications and bold sinful  
Practices ; but your hiring James Christian to  
undo a Man who has struggled to serve his  
Fellow-Creatures fairly, demanded a speedy Mea-  
sure against you. You have seen but a Specimen  
of what I am preparing : You will see a Book  
wherein Mr. Clutton will be concerned once more  
against you : You will see a Performance, that  
will make your Claret Spot turn pale with Con-  
fusion.

I am yet,

July 15, 1742.

JOHN TENNENT.

It would seem that a Man of Innocence  
could not have avoided being warm on having  
such a Letter, and to resent it vehemently ; but  
Mr. *W—d* was struck with such a Panick, that  
he wrote me an Answer, July 17, containing  
solemn Protestations of his Innocence, and ac-  
cusing me with Abuse and Ingratitude to a true  
Friend. Here follows Part of his Letter.

S I R,

As to what you say about Christian, you are  
misinformed, for I have not seen him ; I do not  
remember it if I have, or any Body from him, or  
ever to have heard of his Name, since you sent  
him with a Letter to borrow 200 Pounds for  
Mr. *Dubourdieu* after your Marriage.

To this Letter I wrote an Answer, giving fe-  
veral Reasons, as strong Proofs, that he had  
suborned



torbored Christian.

that the greatest Criminals would plead *Not guilty*. Now, notwithstanding Mr. *W--d's* positive Denial above, Mr. *Stevens*, mentioned p. 14. declared one *Sunday Evening*, last *November*, at the *Crown Tavern* on *Ludgate-hill*, before Mr. *Louttit*, Apothecary in *Princes-street* near the *Royal Exchange*, Mr. *Giffard*, Attorney at Law in *Boswell Court*, No. 10, and Mr. *James Hunter* in *Great Queen-street*, *Lincoln's-Inn-Fields*, that *Christian* had been with Mr. *W--d* twice, after the Time I had sent him about the 200 Pounds for Mr. *Dubourdiez*; and that, the first Time Mr. *Christian* left him, the said *Stevens*, to stay at the *Ship Tavern* near *Charing-Cross* till he returned, telling him that he was going to Dr. *W--d's*; and the second Time, that he left him to stay at the *King's Arms Ale-house* opposite *Whitehall*, till he returned, telling him he was going to Dr. *W--d's*; but *Christian* not returning when Mr. *Stevens* expected him, he went to see what detained him, and meeting *W--d's* Footman, asked if Mr. *Christian* was not coming away from his Master? who answer'd, that he had been with him some Time, which Mr. *Stevens* judg'd was above an Hour. Soon after this, *Christian* came to Mr. *Stevens*, and, in an elate Mood, spoke to him thus; *I can do any thing with Dr. W--d*. Mr. *Stevens* has since further declared to Mr. *Louttit*, at his House in *Princes-street*, that, in an Encounter between the said

*Christian* and him, he was asked by *Christian*, What would you think, Mr. *Stevens*, of an 100 Guineas for your Oath, that I never was with Mr. *W--d* after a specify'd Time?

Upon the whole it is evident, that Mr. *W--d's* Views to obtain from the Government a large Sum of Money, and his Apprehension that I might bring his Practice in Physick, and Behaviour into universal Contempt, induced him to win a Man from what Honesty and Virtue he might have had, and engage him in an Act of black Ingratitude.

I observed, Page 21, that the Debts I owed, and Scarcity of Money, would not safely allow me to appear to the Indictment; but now, by Mr. *Parrat's* Inveteracy in commencing against me a Process of Outlawry, my Honour obliges me to surrender on the ~~charge of treason~~ at the Old Bailey. As a Man's Indiscretions of Life must be revived before that Tribunal of Justice, from the Nature of the Circumstances alledged against me; that was another strong Argument with me to waive the Trial, in hopes that some Incident might intervene to have the Affair accommodated. But I have too much Reason to conclude, that there is a voluntary winking at plain Matters of Fact in my Favour, between Mr. *Parrat* and his Sister, my Wife. It will appear on the Particulars and Event of the Trial, who is the guilty Person.

There have been several Interviews, Letters, and Transactions, between Mr. *W--d* and me since this Discovery against him; all which shall be fully laid open on a proper Occasion, and which corroborate my Proofs instead of weakening them. My way of thinking is such, that, on a due Conduct from him towards me in this Affair, I would have bid from the World his Fault, and in a generous and truly Christian Sense forgiven him; but Nature will be Nature: He would be out of his Element to do his Part as a Man of Honour in this Case. Had he been what he professes with so much Ostentation, he would have had nothing to do in such an Embarkation.

## F I N I S.

## E R R A T A.

Page 5. Line 23. Read *if this Medicine*.

Page 8. Line 21. Read *Awe* for *Aid*.

Page 9. Line 11. Read *Worthyness* for *Unworthyness*.

Ditto, Line 48. Read *Works* for *Marks*.



Med. Hist.

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